



Gerd W. Clabaugh, MPA
Director

Terry E. Branstad
Governor

Kim Reynolds
Lt. Governor

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To: EMS Service directors

From: Iowa Department of Public Health Bureau of Emergency and Trauma Services

Subject: Definition of Automatic Transport Ventilator (ATV)

MEMORANDUM

From the origination of the Iowa Emergency Medical Care Provider Scope of Practice, the use of an ATV had been included based on the AHA guidelines for resuscitation. The Scope of Practice has now existed for over a decade, and manufacturers have expanded the use of the term ATV in their marketing. The Bureau of Emergency and Trauma Services has been asked to develop a definition for an ATV. This definition was developed with the assistance of the Iowa EMS Advisory Council

The ideal ATV should be simple to use in adverse and stressful conditions. The device should be simple to set up, check, and apply to the patient. The device may be a separate piece of equipment, function similar to an AED within a complex ventilator, or be standard transport ventilator with the ability to operate with minimal setup.

It is **recommended** that;

1. EMT and AEMT level providers should only initiate Automatic Transport Ventilator use during prolonged resuscitative efforts
2. EMT and AEMT level providers may continue the use of an Automatic Transport Ventilator if a patient is well established on the ventilator
 - a. Example: Patient with chronic home ventilator that does not require advanced airway management who otherwise requires only EMT or AEMT level care during transport.
 - b. Example: Patient is discharging from a facility on stable ventilator settings and requires ambulance transport to another facility or home but without expected need for airway management
3. Paramedics may initiate use of an Automatic Transport Ventilator in other patient care situations as appropriate per protocol and standard of practice.

An Automatic Transport Ventilator should contain

1. One default mode preferably in Volume Control mode
2. Pop-off valve to limit peak pressure
3. An alert that peak pressure has been reached

The EMT, AEMT, and Paramedic may adjust the following settings.

1. Ventilatory Rate
2. Tidal Volume
3. Inspiratory time setting if able to select adult v child